Today's News - July 21, 2005

Piano vs. Gehry: a New York score card. -- An ode to steel and the "strategy of wrap and hide" it..."a concept that has grown tiresome for certain architects" (and not others). operating around the world. -- Turning historic Fairmont Hotel's "butt-ugly" 1961 addition into condos not such a bad idea (even better - tear it down). -- A closer look at past and present plans for Manhattan's Penn Station/Farley Post Office project. -- Shigeru Ban's vision of the new Pompidou Centre in Metz, France shaped like a Chinese hat. -- Antarctic research station "like a caterpillar on skis." -- Toronto's new trash bins pure crass. -- Coney Island's Parachute Jump pavilion a "leap of imagination." -- The secret lives of movie stars: they'd rather be architects. -- EOI deadline for National Portrait Gallery, Canberra. -- A grand exhibition of Holabird & Root's 125 years in Chicago.

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Architects Live In Class Houses: Piano Vs. Gehry: Renzo Gets Times Tower, Columbia, Morgan Library; Mr. Bilbao in Brooklyn- New York Observer

Raw metal is a major turn-on: The most compelling work of architecture in this country right now is actually a construction site. By Lisa Rochon -- Daniel Libeskind/Bregman + Hamann Architects; Renzo Piano/Fox & Fowle Architects- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Turning Fairmont's ugly addition into condos might improve it: If the scene along Mason Street evokes the best of early 20th century San Francisco, the 1961 addition along Powell Street does just the opposite. By John King- San Francisco Chronicle

With Many Modifications, Penn Station Project Is 'Go': Overlooked in the fanfare this week...is the fact that the design has been significantly altered. Again. -- McKim, Mead & White (1913); Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; James Carpenter Design Associates [images]- New York Times

Second Pompidou Centre goes east: Shigeru Ban and his collaborators, Jean de Gastines and Philip Gumuchdjian, have based their building on the shape of a Chinese hat. [image]- Guardian (UK)

Cold comfort: It looks like a caterpillar on skis and its inhabitants will be able to grow their own veg. Jonathan Glancey on the design for the new British Antarctic Survey research station. -- Faber Maunsell; Hugh Broughton Architects [image]- Guardian (UK)

Putting city's crassness on display: Bigger than a newspaper box, more irritating than a TV commercial and able to block whole sidewalks in a single move—it's the all-new, never-before-seen Eucan trash/recycling bin! By Christopher Hume- Toronto Star

Leaps of Imagination for the Parachute Jump: Few would question that Coney Island is the quintessential American amusement area...how did the commission to design a public pavilion...end up in the hands of an Australian, a Scot and two Englishmen? -- Kevin Carmody, Andrew Groarke, Chris Hardie, Lewis Kinneir; Van Alen Institute [images/slide show]- New York Times

But What I Really Want to Do Is Design: Male sex symbols, who might have once raced cars or raised cattle, now boast about their obsession with tavertine and fabric swatches....Jennifer Aniston may have lost Brad Pitt to an even hotter muse. Architecture. [slide show]- New York Times

Expression of Interest for a Principal Design Consultant for the National Portrait Gallery, Canberra; registration deadline: August 11- Australian Government

Exhibition Review: "Holabird & Root: 125 Years" at the Chicago Architecture Foundation's ArchiCenter...documents an unmatched record of duration, diversity of style and popularity with the public. By Kevin Nance- Chicago Sun-Times

Rethinking Form and Function: Swarthmore College Unified Science Center becomes an intellectual and social magnet for an entire campus. -- Einhorn Yaffee Prescott; Helfand Architecture [images]- ArchNewsNow

July '05 Build Business: The Perfect Storm: Surviving through Succession Planning

-- Under construction: Raimund Abraham: JingYa Ocean Entertainment Center, Beijing, China
-- Randall Stout: Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, Virginia
-- Design Hotel: Niall D Brennan & Associates: The Morgan, Dublin, Ireland

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